

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 AID-05 OFA-01 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-04

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C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 6901

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNGA EC

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE ATTENDANCE OF FONMIN AGUIRRE AT UNGA AND
POSSIBLE BILATERAL TALKS WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER

REF: QUITO 5983

1. DCM AND POL COUNSELOR CALLED ON ROQUE CANADAS,
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, FONMINISTRY AT
LATTER'S REQUEST TO DISCUSS "POSITIVE" MATTERS THAT
MIGHT BE TAKEN UP IN POSSIBLE BILATERAL MEETING BETWEEN
SECRETARY KISSINOER AND FONMIN AGUIRRE AT UNGA.
REFTEL INDICATES ONLY EMBASSY INFORMATION CONCERNING
SUCH A POSSIBILITY AND THAT WAS REPEATED TO THE
AMBASSADOR BY FORMER FONMIN LUCIO PAREDES. APPARENTLY
AMBASSADOR CARDENAS HAD BEEN TRYING TO ARRANGE SUCH A BILATERAL.

2. THE CONVERSATION WITH CANADAS THEREFORE WAS ONLY
EXPLORATORY OF POSSIBLE SUBJECTS FOR SUCH A CONVERSATION.
DCM TRIED NOT TO ENCOURAGE CANADAS THAT SUCH TALKS MIGH
TAKE PLACE. CANADAS SAID THAT AGUIRRE HAD NOT YET
DECIDED FIRMLY WHETHER OR NOT TO ATTEND THE UNGA BUT
THAT IF HE DID, HE EXPECTED TO BE IN NEW YORK ON SEPT 24.

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3. IT WAS SUGGESTED TO CANADAS THAT THE SECRETARY AND FONMIN MIGHT EXPRESS THEIR PLEASURE AT TALKS THAT WERE CURRENTLY GOING ON TO HELP RESOLVE THE LONGSTANDING FISHING ISSUE AND EXPRESS THEIR HOPES THAT FURTHER PROGRESS WOULD BE MADE IN THE MULTILATERAL TALKS THAT WERE ABOUT TO BE HELD IN NEW YORK. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT NEITHER THE SECRETARY NOR THE MINISTER WOULD WANT TO GO INTO ANY DETAIL ABOUT THIS ISSUE.

4. CANADAS ASKED WHETHER IT WOULD BE FRUITFUL FOR MINISTER AGUIRRE TO BRING UP ECUADOR'S PROBLEMS IN BEING DENIED FULL USE OF THE IDB/FSO SOFT WINDOW. DCM REPEATED THE WELL KNOWN CONSTRAINTS FACED BY THE USG IN THIS AREA OF CONCESSIONAL LENDING. DCM SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD A COMPROMISE HAD BEEN REACHED SOME MONTHS AGO ON THIS ISSUE BETWEEN TREASURY SECRETARY SIMON AND THEN FINANCE MINISTER MONCAYO. HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH ECUADOR COULD BRING UP ANY SUBJECT IT THOUGHT PROPER IT PROBABLY WOULD NOT BE PROFITABLE TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE.

5. DCM AND POL COUNSELOR SUGGESTED THAT A WELCOME GESTURE ON THE PART OF ECUADOR WOULD BE TO CHANGE ITS VOTE FROM LAST YEAR'S ABSTENTION TO A VOTE FAVORING THE COMPROMISE RESOLUTION ON SOUTH KOREA ISSUE. CANADAS EXPLAINED ECUADOR'S TRADITIONAL UNWILLINGNESS TO TAKE SIDES IN SUCH ISSUES WHERE THEY WERE NOT DIRECTLY CONNECTED TO ECUADOREAN INTERESTS. POL COUNSELOR WENT INTO SOME DETAIL EXPLAINING NATURE OF THE RESOLUTION AND HOW AN ABSTENTION IN THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES COULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF SUPPORTING THE OTHER SIDE. HE SAID THAT WHATEVER ECUADOR DECIDED TO DO IN LIGHT OF ITS OWN INTERESTS IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF THE FONMINISTRY COULD INFORM US IN ADVANCE SO THAT WE MIGHT BE BETTER BE ABLE TO PREPARE OUR OWN STRATEGY.

6. GOING BACK TO THE POSITIVE ASPECTS OF OUR RELATIONS WE MENTIONED THAT WE HAD BEEN ADLE TO ESTABLISH A CERTAIN LEVEL OF COOPERATION WITH THE THREE BRANCHES
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OF THE ARMED FORCES DESPITE THE DIFFICULTIES CREATED BY OUR BILATERAL FISHERIES PROBLEMS. WE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THIS ISSUE WOULD NOT INTENSIFY DURING THE NEXT YEAR SO AS TO HARM THE PROGRESSIVELY GOOD RELATIONS THAT WE MUTUALLY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CREATE.

7. COMMENT: BECAUSE CANADAS' POSITION IS ON THE ECONOMIC SIDE AND BECAUSE HE STATED AT THE OUTSET THAT

HE HAD BEEN ASKED TO CONTACT US BY THE MINISTER, WE
SUSPECT THAT HIS GREATEST INTEREST HAD TO DO WITH CON-
CESSIONAL LENDING. WE WERE OF COURSE UNABLE TO GIVE HIM
ANY ENCOURAGEMENT IN THIS AREA.
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